Report: Implementation of OAuth2 Login with Google

Objective

Pandora Company Limited required a secure PHP-based login system integrating "Login with Google" functionality using OAuth2 to streamline authentication.

Implementation Process

1. Setting Up Google Cloud Platform

- Project Creation: Created *Pandora Authentication* project in Google Cloud Console.
- OAuth Consent Screen: Configured application name, scopes (email and profile), and redirect URI (http://localhost/pandora/redirect.php).
- OAuth Credentials: Generated Client ID and Secret, matching the redirect URI.

2. PHP Application Development

Developed three primary files:

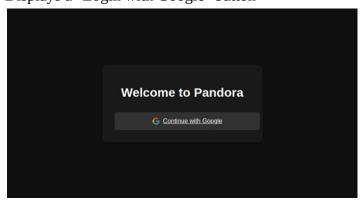
- login.php: Displays a "Login with Google" button and initializes the Google PHP client.
- redirect.php: Handles the redirect, fetches an access token, and stores it in a session.
- dashboard.php: Verifies the session token, fetches user details, and displays a greeting.

Challenges and Solutions

- 1. Missing Scopes:
 - *Problem*: Forgot to include required scopes in OAuth consent screen.
 - *Solution*: Updated scopes and verified permissions.
- 2. Authorization Error in Testing Mode:
 - *Problem*: Testing mode blocked unauthorized accounts.
 - Solution: Added test accounts; later pushed to Production mode.
- 3. Logo Verification:
 - *Problem*: Adding a logo required app verification.
 - Solution: Temporarily removed logo to avoid delays.
- 4. Session Management:
 - *Problem*: Sessions did not persist across pages.
 - *Solution*: Ensured session start() was included in all files.
- 5. Google PHP Client Library Setup:
 - *Problem*: Missing dependencies caused library failure.
 - Solution: Installed the library using Composer and verified autoloading.
- 6. Access Token Exchange:
 - Problem: Mismatch between redirect URIs.
 - Solution: Updated URIs in both Google Cloud Console and Google_Client

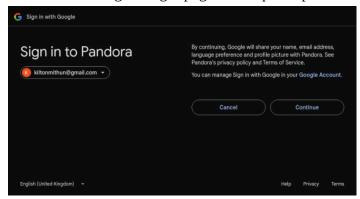
Screenshots

Login Page (login.php):
Displays a "Login with Google" button



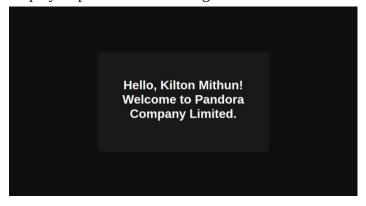
2. Authentication Flow:

Redirects to Google's login page and requests permissions for email and profile.



3. Dashboard (dashboard.php):

Displays a personalized message



Conclusion

This implementation successfully integrates OAuth2-based "Login with Google" functionality into Pandora Company Limited's PHP application. By leveraging the Google Identity Services API, the solution ensures secure and streamlined user authentication.

References

- 1. Setting up OAuth 2.0
- 2. Setting up your OAuth consent screen
- 3. Google PHP Client Library on GitHub
- 4. PHP Official Documentation on Session Management